

# Community Update

## *Notes to BOP'S Local Partners*

May 2006

A word from the Administrator: No. 48

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### Contractors Meeting

Since the last Update was distributed, we held our annual contractor's meeting in Washington. These meetings have helped us develop new procedures and practices and keeps us moving in a positive direction.

We believe our recent meeting was extremely productive, there was a great turnout, and a positive exchange of ideas. Some issues and concerns raised by the group we plan to address in the future are: alternative pricing schemes for CCC services; providing a clearer definition of what constitutes management staff and reevaluating contract staff needs and requirements for smaller contracts; working to enhance consistency with Bureau staff as it relates to progressive discipline and conducting monitorings; and considering conducting contractor meetings on a more frequent basis.

### CCC Name Change

Since 1989, Bureau of Prisons halfway houses have been called Community Corrections Centers, recently our Executive Staff approved changing the name to Residential Reentry Centers (RRCs). This change provides a clearer description of the services and programs being offered and differentiates community-based programs from correctional facilities.

Future solicitations for community-based release transition services will be identified as RRCs. The name change will not effect existing facilities and will occur system-wide through attrition and contract replacement. However, we have used the terms halfway house and CCC synonymously for years and now we can add RRC.

### **Upcoming Contractors Conferences**

The Western Region will hold their regional contractor's conference in Reno, Nevada, during the week of June 12, 2006. The North Central Region will hold their meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, during the week of September 18, 2006. I encourage everyone to mark their calendars and attend, if possible. Regional conferences are an excellent opportunity to interact with your peers, exchange ideas, and learn something new.

### **Performance based contracts**

The first two performance-based contracts have been awarded. One in San Francisco, California, and the other in St. Louis, Missouri. We have opened or will be opening performance-based procurements in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Orlando, Florida; San Antonio, Texas; and Atlanta, Georgia. Even if your agency is not pursuing a performance based contract, I think you would benefit from reading the solicitation or the Performance Work Statement. It might give you some insight on where Community Corrections is heading in the future.

### **Community Corrections Center Placement decisions in the Third and Eighth Circuits**

In the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (Woodall v. Bureau of Prisons) and the Eighth Circuit (Fults v. Sanders), a federal inmate challenged the lawfulness of the Bureau's regulation which limits community corrections center placement to 10 percent of the sentence to be served, not to exceed 6 months.

Both Circuits ruled it inappropriate for the Bureau to categorically limit CCC placements as provided in its federal regulation because it did not allow for full consideration of the factors provided in 18 U.S.C. Section 3621(b). Therefore, inmates in these circuits can once again be directly designated to CCCs and inmates in prisons in these circuit states can be transferred to CCCs in excess of the 10 percent provision.

The Third Circuit includes: Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. The Eighth Circuit includes: Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North and South Dakota.

### **FINAL THOUGHT**

Over the last couple of years it seems we have become extremely busy, with more responsibilities, fewer staff, and deadlines we seem to have little control over. To get it all done, we often shift our priorities and put off what is less pressing at the

moment. Our primary responsibility is public safety, a goal we can only achieve through effective offender management. As you are juggling all your job is requiring of you, remember that the basics of accountability, integrity and responsibility, provide the cornerstones for what we do. You cannot juggle them or set them aside.

Thank you all and I hope you enjoy your summer.

Stewart Rowles  
Administrator  
Community Corrections and  
Detention Services Branch  
Correctional Programs Division

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Examples of best practices or your comments and ideas on RRC utilization, may be mailed to: Federal Bureau of Prisons, Community Corrections, 320 First Street, Bldg. 400, NW, Washington, DC 20534, or e-mail them to [bop-ccd/comm\\_corr~](mailto:bop-ccd/comm_corr~)

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